

Army Hospital Staff Homeless--Seek Rooms With Torrance Families

By THE REV. PAUL MOORE WHEELER

Throughout our area homes and apartments are being constructed for defense workers' families. They are vitally needed, we know, and so we welcome their construction. However, all new housing in the Torrance area is available ONLY for defense workers and their families.

The new Army station hospital at Carson st. and Normandie ave., has been opened. To staff the hospital adequately the Army has and will in the future transfer officers, enlisted men and their families to Torrance. Where will they live? That is a question of vital importance and the answer lies with the people of Torrance. Already Army doctors are looking for homes, or even rooms, for themselves and families. The War Housing Administration has its hands tied by the government directives while these men of the armed forces look in vain for housing facilities. Single men live at the post. Married men must find dwellings for their wives, and perhaps their children. They need and want homes, apartments or rooms. What shall our answer be?

In order to help these men and be of service to the community, as rector of St. Andrew's church I have offered the church facilities as a clearing house for contacts between incoming men seeking dwellings, and the community. The Army hospital officials have gladly accepted the church offer. Already we have found places made available as the result of the personal contacts.

Therefore, if the people living in Torrance who have homes, apartments or rooms available for rental the Army hospital staff would appreciate your listing them with the office of St. Andrew's church which office will then forward such information to the registrar of the station hospital.

The church phone is Torrance 560 and calls can be placed daily between the hours of 7:30 and 10 a. m., 12 noon to 1 p. m. and 5 to 8 p. m.

What will Torrance do about the personnel of the new Army Station hospital?

Elman Tells Council Again How Torrance City Should be Run

Charles Elman again came all the way from 318 South Figueroa st., where he now lives, to unbosom his ideas about taxes and other complaints about how the city of Torrance should be run in a communication laid before the city council Tuesday night and, later, was given opportunity to speak orally on invitation of the mayor.

He said to the council that he represented "one of the largest taxpayers in the city"—but failed to disclose who that particular individual is.

He berated the council because the population of Torrance is not three times what it is now, blamed its members for lack of housing, adequate transportation and community interests for, he said, the young people of this town are in need of civic facilities which other places enjoy.

He rapped the Municipal Bus system and said he knew electrically that the Pacific Electric wanted to come into Torrance and would if the councilmanly body would meet them half way, he asserted.

Increase in population would reduce the tax burden of the "large interests" here.

All this was about the run of his story as to why he is so interested in the welfare of Torrance.

Patriotic Hall, Junior College, Plunge Planned for Post-War

Establishment of a junior college in this area, construction of tennis courts and a plunge at the Torrance high school, erection of a patriotic hall in the civic center, and development of an all-over recreation program were among the projects discussed by members of the Torrance Post-War Planning Commission at its regular monthly meeting held last Monday evening. B. C. Buxton, president of the commission, presided.

Jack Hallanger reported that architect's sketches of the proposed new patriotic hall are now being drawn by Walker & Eisen, architects of the civic center buildings. The sketches will be exhibited when completed. The city owned vacant corner opposite the Civic Auditorium at El Prado and Cravens is proposed as a location of the patriotic hall.

Rev. Paul Moore Wheeler reported that he had made initial contact with the Los Angeles Board of Education regarding

Two Seriously Hurt In Crash Of 16 Autos

Two shipyard workers were seriously injured in a spectacular crash in which 16 cars were involved early Wednesday morning near Carson st. on South Figueroa st. during a dense fog. The two men and morning. The two men and a third who sustained facial cuts and bruises, all negroes, were brought to the Torrance Memorial hospital. Two others were given emergency treatment on the scene, according to a report from the South Vermont sheriff's office.

The two most seriously hurt were Robert Douglas, 38, of 415 East 42nd st. and Conrad Ferber, 42, of 926 East 52nd place, Los Angeles. They were returned to their homes in a Stone & Myers ambulance.

A co-worker of the men brought to the Torrance hospital stated that a dense fog about one-fourth mile in width obscured vision and that after the first cars collided they began to pile up, coming from both directions. Another stated that the general pile-up of cars was caused when occupants of a sedan slowed up to turn into a driveway and were hit by the vehicle following just behind it. One car caught fire and burned. Many others were put out of commission.

Willett's Report Shows City Court Cases In October

From Oct. 1 to 31, inclusive, the city court of Torrance received \$964.50 net from fines and fees, according to the report of Judge Otto B. Willett. Of this sum \$645 are general fund monies, while \$319.50 came from vehicle violations and thus belong to the road fund.

Ten civil cases were filed during the month, eight being small claims cases, resulting in fees of \$16.

General fund monies were collected from the following cases: drunkenness, \$460; parking, \$40; boulevard stop, \$35; disturbing the peace, \$80; miscellaneous violations, \$80.

Vehicle code funds were derived from the following cases: drunk driving, \$77.50; speeding, \$110; miscellaneous traffic violations, \$116.

Criminal and traffic cases actually handled during the month totaled to \$164, for which there were 135 convictions, as follows: drunkenness, 33; drunk driving, 1; speeding, 18; parking, 37; miscellaneous traffic, 34; miscellaneous criminal, 12; certified to juvenile court, 3.

McDonnell to Open Two Housing Offices

Pat McDonnell, manager for the federal housing centers in this area, is having more duties shoved onto him. He has been instructed to open up two more offices, one to serve the Redondo Beach, Hermosa Beach and Manhattan Beach districts, and another to serve Wilmington and San Pedro in the harbor area.

the inclusion of a plunge and tennis courts in its post-war program. Another conference will be held soon, Rev. Wheeler stated.

William H. Tolson proposed that efforts be made to secure a junior college after the war, and suggested that the County Board of Supervisors be requested to donate a site in Alondra Park, north of Redondo Beach Blvd., and bordering on the northern Torrance city limits. Tolson agreed to contact civic leaders in Inglewood, Gardena and the coastal cities in support of the junior college movement.

Principal Perry Gives Illustrated Lecture

Harold E. Perry, principal of Torrance high school, delivered an outstanding lecture accompanied by colored slides Thursday, Nov. 4 at Berendo junior high in Los Angeles as a unit of the Institute Session series being conducted for the teachers of the Los Angeles city schools. His subject was "Yosemite Artistry."

Following the lecture 21 members of the faculty group had a delicious dinner before going on to another lecture in the series on "The Amazon by Clipper and Canoe" by Howard Welty of Oakland.

Wartime Ban on Civic Auditorium Lifted by Torrance Council

The Torrance Civic Auditorium, closed for recreational and other entertainment since beginning of the war, probably will be reopened next week. This action was ordered by the Torrance city council Tuesday night when recommendations of a council subcommittee, representatives of the Civilian Defense Council and members of the Torrance Servicemen's Foundation who had discussed the proposal at a session held last week, were accepted by the council as a whole.

The program provides that the auditorium will be open for youth recreational activities on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings from 7 to 9:30 p. m., under direction of Dale Riley, recreation commissioner. On Friday and Saturday nights the building will be open for dancing or other entertainment under sponsorship of officials of the Torrance Servicemen's Foundation.

Organized Effort
A concerted effort to remove the auditorium ban was initiated recently by a group of citizens who met and organized the Servicemen's Foundation, culminating in a petition signed by 11 members of the group which was presented to the council at its session on Oct. 26. The petition bore the names of Henry C. Barrington, L. G. Barkdull, Charles T. Rippey, Lura Davis, Anne Warburton, Bettina Miller, Gertrude Wilson, T. R. Miller, F. L. Parks, John E. Miller and James L. Rahl.

The document recited that "an examination of the auditorium discloses that it can be used for civilian purposes without interfering with civilian defense; that the military authorities have conceded that the danger of bombing is so remote to be practically non-existent." This situation, it was pointed out, was emphasized by a proclamation issued by the Western Defense Command relaxing dimout regulations in this area.

The council members were not inclined to take definite action without further study and consultation with officials of the Civilian Defense Council and the petitioners and set Monday evening, Oct. 29 at 8 o'clock as the date for hearing on the proposal.

At this gathering the proposal was discussed from many angles as to the result that those present were overwhelmingly in favor of opening the auditorium again for purposes for which it was originally intended and functioned prior to beginning of the war.

Youth in Mind
One of the strongest arguments for removal of the ban was that under existing conditions there was no place available for entertainment, especially for the young people of the community. It was also suggested that the reopening would be a potent factor toward reducing juvenile delinquency. Hours were set for four nights of youth recreational activities so as to interfere in no way with the municipal curfew ordinance.

Public sentiment favorable to the reopening of the auditorium has been increasing steadily for some time and the council's decision, in the opinion of most citizens of Torrance, will meet with general approval.

NEW POLICEMAN
Kenneth B. Garrison has been employed by the city council as a patrolman in the Torrance police department.

WAR CHEST KICK-OFF MEETING NEXT FRIDAY
Plans had been completed today for the "kick-off" meeting of the Torrance division of the Los Angeles Area War Chest. The time will be in the council chamber of the Torrance city hall, Friday, Nov. 12 at 10:30 a. m.

Presiding at this session will be Hillman Lee, general chairman for this division.

Approximately 200 volunteer workers will be present to receive their final instructions given by P. G. Winnette, general chairman of the L. A. Area War Chest and president of the Bullock store in Los Angeles. Torrance being a new member of the chest, Mr. Winnette expressed a special desire to come here for that purpose.

Another speaker will be Richard McCune, general chairman of the associated and suburban areas, to explain other features of the campaign just getting under way in this community. He is a vice president of the Bank of America.

Sgt. Don Blanchard, U. S. Marines, who recently returned from Guadalcanal, will relate some of his experiences in battling the Japs in the Pacific area.

The meeting is open to the public and if there is anyone who is willing to work in the interest of human needs, they will be welcome to sign up to assist in the house-to-house campaign. More workers are needed. It was stressed at chest headquarters in the Torrance Chamber of Commerce building.

Division Chairman Lee has reported responses this week from the Longren Aircraft Co., Donk Aircraft Corp., Folker Manufacturing Co. and International Derrick & Equipment Co. regarding payroll deductions, amounting in most cases to one hour's work per month for one year as contributions from workers in local war plants.

PRIZE BANANA TREE
Mr. and Mrs. Everett Grubbs of 1513 El Prado have a banana tree now in bearing near the rear porch of their home to which they point with pride. A bunch of the fruit shows specimens fully six inches in length, it was said by persons who have seen it.

Overseas Cards Require First Class Postage

Christmas cards addressed to all overseas forces must bear first class postage, Postmaster C. Earl Conner warned today. This means that all cards sent through fleet post-offices or U. S. port postmasters require 3-cent stamps—or 6-cent airmail.

Navy Man Says Adm. Halsey's Opinion Right

Leroy Stecker, U. S. Navy signaller, first class, is in Torrance this week finishing out a two-week leave of absence from regular duties while awaiting assignment to a new ship on which he expects to sail soon to join the U. S. fleet again. Just where he is to be sent he does not know and probably will not be advised until his ship gets well out on the high seas.

Stecker has been in the Navy for 4½ years, having joined shortly after he graduated with the Torrance high school class of 1939. He has seen much action during the present war. "I could tell a lot of interesting experiences," he said, "but I guess I'll have to wait until the time is ended to reveal some of the things I have seen and have been through."

In speaking of the situation in the Pacific area he said Admiral Halsey was right when he said the United States fleet is ready for anything that Tokyo can send against it. "That's how the men in the Navy feel about it, too. They are anxious to meet the enemy any time he gets up nerve enough to come out in the open and face us."

Stecker has been in service in the Atlantic theater and was a member of the crew of the Destroyer Sturtevant when it bombed on April 22, 1942. He is staying at the home of his mother, Mrs. Hollis Tawler of 20519 North Elliott st., whom he had not seen for over a year. He says he finds few of his associates of school days here who have not entered some branch of the armed services.

Asked how he likes the Navy after more than four years of service, Stecker replied: "Just fine, but I'll be glad when the war is over and I can come back home. But I want to stay in the fight till the Japs are licked."

LEGION DINNER MEETING
The American Legion post in Torrance made no plans for observance of Armistice Day here this year, but is looking ahead to the dinner meeting to be held at Moose hall, 1951 Carson st., next Tuesday evening, Nov. 16. All Legion men are invited. The dinner will be served by members of the auxiliary.



GUY DEWITT . . . who entered training for the U. S. armed service, selected the submarine school to become a skilled undersea fighter. Having completed his basic course, he is now gaining further experience with veteran crews.

Torrance Youth Graduates from Sub-Boat School

Guy De Witt, 21, seaman 1/c, son of Mr. and Mrs. G. DeWitt, 2307 Cabrillo ave., Torrance, has completed his basic training at the school, submarine base, New London, Conn., for the growing fleet of undersea fighters.

Seaman DeWitt will be entitled to wear the twin dolphin insignia of the submarine service after further experience aboard a submarine during which he must demonstrate to his commanding officer that he is fully qualified to carry out the duties of his rate. The insignia is regarded as a mark of distinction throughout the Navy.

De Witt attended Torrance high school, lettering in basketball, track and football. He entered the Navy last December through the San Pedro recruiting office and received his basic training at Farragut, Idaho.

Chief Stroth Attends WAVE Recruiting Session In L. A.

John Stroth, chief of police, represented Torrance at a meeting of mayors, civic and social leaders, and patriotic citizens from virtually every community in Los Angeles county, gathered recently in special session at the Hall of Records to plan activities for WAVE recruiting in the current inter-county contest for procurement of applicants for the Women's Reserve of the U. S. Navy.

Rear Admiral I. C. Johnson, director of naval procurement for the 11th district, and Lieut. Comdr. L. D. Blanchard, officer in charge of recruiting in Southern California, were among the principal speakers.

Theme of the meeting was establishment of methods to put Los Angeles county in the running in competition with Orange, Kern, Santa Barbara, Riverside, San Bernardino, Ventura and San Diego counties in the per capita WAVE procurement for the period Oct. 7 to Dec. 7. Los Angeles county's present competitor is Kern county.

Admiral Johnson spoke briefly on the need for more women in the WAVE, pointing out that the quotas set by the Navy department are not being met in this area.

Firemen Receive Four Calls to Sunday Blazes

The Torrance Fire department had four calls to fires last Sunday, one in county territory, near Vermont ave. and Sepulveda Blvd., which was relayed to the county fire department in that area.

At 11:35 a. m. the Torrance department made a run to 1608 Iris ave., where a grass fire appeared threatening to property in that locality. It was promptly extinguished with no damage reported.

At 2:45 p. m. the second run took the fire-fighters to the Patton & Conway oil well at 2227 West 233rd st., and again to the place at 7:45 p. m. No fire was found on the first run. The later one was of minor consequence. A slipping belt caused an overheated motor and a lot of smoke, Chief McMaster reported with no serious damage.

PRIZE BANANA TREE
Mr. and Mrs. Everett Grubbs of 1513 El Prado have a banana tree now in bearing near the rear porch of their home to which they point with pride. A bunch of the fruit shows specimens fully six inches in length, it was said by persons who have seen it.

Shooting and Suicide Brings Tragic Scene to R. E. Thompson Home

A shooting and suicide marked last Sunday as a day of tragedy in Torrance when Arthur William Weibert, aged 50, of 20420 North Oak ave., Torrance, shot and seriously wounded Mrs. Ethel Thompson at her home at 2624 Carson st. and who later entered the living room of the house where he pointed the weapon toward

his head, pulled the trigger and killed himself.

Weibert called at the Thompson home during the evening and asked to see Mrs. Ethel Weibert, his former wife and niece, of Mrs. Thompson, who only recently returned to Torrance from Tennessee with her husband whom she married last August.

**Better Lighted
Streets Loom
For Torrance**
Torrance is to have more light in conformance with the proclamation of Lieut. Gen. E. H. Hines of the Western Defense Command, relaxing dimout restrictions in Southern California. The city council Tuesday night authorized the police department to remove the "blackout" shades on the lower part of the street lamps in the business districts, leaving tops undisturbed. The chief advanced this idea in which the council concurred.

Chief Stroth replying to a query from one of the councilmen, said in an emergency all the city lights could be extinguished on a moment's notice. He emphasized, however, that in event of a blackout warning it will be up to the citizenry to immediately comply with the existing regulations concerning blackouts. This would apply to advertising signs and brightly lighted store windows, as well as porch lights and windows in homes, Stroth explained.

**Beds for Buddies
At Fire Station
Up to the Army**
About a month ago members of the Torrance Fire department offered to provide space to install "Beds for Buddies" on the second floor of the station headquarters on Cravens ave.

Officials of the U. S. Army were interested and promised to provide the cots. So the firemen went ahead and cleared the room, put the bath facilities in working order in anticipation that the Army would be "moving in" with the cots, linen and blankets. But up to date, none of these things have arrived.

Numerous cases of servicemen experiencing difficulty in obtaining places to sleep after having come to Torrance for a visit and perhaps become stranded for the night. This situation prompted the firemen to give them a helping hand. The firemen can provide the shelter but no other facilities. It was this understanding when Army officials asserted these would be provided.

**Blood Bank Unit
Here November 27**
Another Red Cross Blood Bank will be held in Torrance Nov. 27, according to Mrs. O. A. Kresse, blood bank chairman of the American Red Cross. The unit, which is the largest ever sent here, will be at the Civic Auditorium from 3 to 7 p. m.

The quota set for Torrance on this occasion is the largest so far reported, Mrs. Kresse said, calling for donations of 375 pints for use in making the plasma to save men in the services who become casualties in battle.

**Car Driven by Boy
Smashes Lamp Post**
A Chevrolet sedan car driven by Leslie O. Lynch, 15, collided with a street lamp post last night during a fog at 218th st. and Manuel ave. The car was registered to Ernest C. Mince, a shipyard worker, of 25421 Eshelman st., Lomita, who was requested to call at the police station to arrange about paying the damage incurred to the lamp post.

**Housing and Transportation
Problems Studied by Chamber**
Enthusiastic and universally favorable reaction to the newly streamlined Torrance Chamber of Commerce was reported by directors at their regular weekly meeting Monday, Nov. 8, according to President James L. Lynch.

Twenty-five leading business firms have already signed membership agreements and a number of non-business members have enrolled on the recently established basis of one dollar per month, President Lynch reports. He urges that as many as possible contact Mrs. Leonard Young, assistant secretary at the Chamber office, telephone Torrance 125, and volunteer their membership without the necessity of making personal contacts. "The time of all directors is limited due to pressure of their own business, and we shall appreciate volunteer membership enrollments," Lynch states.

At this week's board meeting special stress was laid upon the introduction of additional housing for this area, together with adequate transportation. Chairman Sam Levy of the housing committee explained details of a new housing project, and Chairman William H. Tolson of the transportation committee will soon announce a transportation plan for this area, President Lynch said.

An open meeting for members and the public will be held Monday, Dec. 6 at 8 p. m. in the Chamber of Commerce offices, 1119 Sartori ave., at which time vital details of the new program will be outlined.